

Claim 7, lines 3-4, delete ", in particular by a load cell (28)".

Claim 9, line 1, delete "7 and".

Claim 9, line 3, delete ", preferably in the form of its second derivative".

Claim 10, line 2, delete "(cigarette)" and "(thin)".

Claim 10, line 4, delete "an (upper)" and replace with --a--.

Claim 10, line 6, delete "preferably the pressure plate (26),".

Claim 10, line 4, delete "(lower)".

Claim 12, line 1, delete "10 or".

Claim 14, lines 2-3, delete "in particular to the displaceable pressure strut (24),".

Claim 14, line 3, delete ", in particular a position sensor (31)".

Claim 15, line 3, delete ", preferably for testing samples of packs (10)".

Add new Claims 18-29 as follows:

A⁷ 18. (new) Method according to Claim 1, characterized in that the cuboid-shaped pack is a cigarette pack having at least one wrapper of thin cardboard.

19. (new) Method according to Claim 3, characterized in that the resistance is displayed or plotted in graphic form.

20. (new) Method according to Claim 5, characterized in that the derivative is a second derivative.

21. (new) Method according to Claim 6, characterized in that the force is transferred across the entire pack surface.

22. (new) Method according to Claim 6, characterized in that the force is transferred on the entire large-surface front side (13) of the cuboid-shaped pack.

23. (new) Method according to Claim 6, characterized in that the force is transferred on the entire large-surface rear side (14) of the cuboid-shaped pack.

24. (new) Method according to Claim 7, characterized in that the pressure gauge is a load cell (28).

25. (new) Method according to Claim 9, characterized in that the curve is the second derivative.

26. (new) Apparatus according to Claim 10, characterized in that the cuboid-shaped pack is a cigarette pack having at least one wrapper of thin cardboard.

27. (new) Apparatus according to Claim 10, characterized in that the at least one pressure exerting means is the pressure plate (26).

28. (new) Apparatus according to Claim 10, characterized in that the bearing plate (27) is connected to the load cell (28).

29. (new) Apparatus according to Claim 14, characterized in that the distance-measuring device is a position sensor (31) attached to the displaceable pressure strut (24).